

Public Notice of Application for Permit

Regulatory Branch (1145) CEPOA-CO-R Post Office Box 6898 Elmendorf AFB, Alaska 99506-0898

PUBLIC NOTICE DATE:

6 September 2006

EXPIRATION DATE:

5 October 2006

REFERENCE NUMBER:

POA-1980-454-O

WATERWAY:

Beaufort Sea 173

Interested parties are hereby notified that an application has been received for a Department of the Army permit for certain work in waters of the United States as described below and shown on the attached plan.

<u>APPLICANT</u>: BP Exploration (Alaska), Inc., PO Box 196612, Anchorage, AK 99519-6612. Contact Mr. Cash Fay (564-5517) for further information.

LOCATION: The proposed Put 23 Mine Site project is located within sections 14, 22, and 23, T. 11 N., R. 14 E., Umiat Meridian; Latitude 70.2925° N., Longitude 148.5176° W.; near Deadhorse, Alaska.

 $\overline{\text{PURPOSE}}$: The purpose of the work is to continue to remove gravel (up to approximately 10,680,000 cy) from the mine site, including previously undisturbed areas, for various North Slope projects.

<u>WORK</u>: The proposed work includes placement of 505,000 cy of overburden fill material into, and stockpile and move up to 10,680,000 cy of gravel within, the 349 acres of waters of the U.S. at the Put 23 Mine Site to conduct mining and rehabilitation activities. Approximately 252 acres are already disturbed by mining and overburden storage activities, and 280 acres previously were authorized. Authorization to use the 41 acre Phase IV area is requested with this modification and time extension.

	Phase III area	Phase IV area
Size Currently	78 acres	41 acres
undisturbed area Overburden	56 acres 285,000 cy	41 acres 220,000 cy
Gravel	6,380,000 cy	4,300,000 cy

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: BP Exploration is also asking to discontinue the test trench monitoring and rehabilitation program for the test trenches at Put 23 authorized by DA permit number POA-2001-1279; monitoring and rehabiliation would continue at the

MS 3 test trenches south of the Deadhorse Airport. The test trenches are located in the Phase III mining area which is the next portion to be opened and used.

A revised mining and rehabilitation plan, dated July 26, 2006, is included with the project plans.

A ten year time extension is requested for this mine site operation and rehabilitation plan.

MITIGATION: As a result of project planning, the applicant has incorporated into the proposed project the following mitigation efforts to reduce impacts to the aquatic environment: Deep mining to reduce surface area disturbance and to create deep overwintering fish habitat; creation of an irregular shoreline and shallow littoral areas for habitat improvement; and revegetation of the mine site.

WATER QUALITY CERTIFICATION: A permit for the described work will not be issued until a certification or waiver of certification as required under Section 401 of the Clean Water Act (Public Law 95-217), has been received from the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation.

COASTAL ZONE MANAGEMENT ACT CERTIFICATION: Section 307(c)(3) of the Coastal Zone, Management Act of 1972, as amended by 16 U.S.C. 1456(c)(3), requires the applicant to certify that the described activity affecting land or water uses in the Coastal Zone complies with the Alaska Coastal Management Program. A permit will not be issued until the Office of Project Management and Permitting, Department of Natural Resources has concurred with the applicant's certification.

<u>PUBLIC HEARING</u>: Any person may request, in writing, within the comment period specified in this notice, that a public hearing be held to consider this application. Requests for public hearings shall state, with particularity, reasons for holding a public hearing.

CULTURAL RESOURCES: The latest published version of the Alaska Heritage Resources Survey (AHRS) has been consulted for the presence or absence of historic properties, including those listed in or eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places. There are no listed or eligible properties in the vicinity of the worksite. The closest site, approximately 0.75 miles away, is XBP-00007, Putuligayuk River Delta Overlook. Consultation of the AHRS constitutes the extent of cultural resource investigations by the District Engineer at this time, and he is otherwise unaware of the presence of such resources. This application is being coordinated with the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO). Any comments SHPO may have concerning presently unknown archeological or historic data that may be lost or destroyed by work under the requested permit will be considered in our final assessment of the described work.

TRIBAL CONSULTATION: The Alaska District fully supports tribal self-governance and government-to-government relations between the Federal government and Federally recognized Tribes. This notice invites participation by agencies, Tribes, and members of the public in the Federal decision-making process. In addition, Tribes with protected rights or resources that could be significantly affected by a proposed Federal action (e.g., a permit decision) have the right to consult with the Alaska District on a government-to-government basis. Views of each Tribe regarding protected rights and resources will be accorded due consideration in this process. This Public Notice serves as notification to the Tribes within the area potentially affected by the proposed work and invites their participation in the Federal decision-making process regarding the protected Tribal right or resource. Consultation may be initiated by the affected Tribe upon written request to the District Engineer during the public comment period.

ENDANGERED SPECIES: The project area is within the known or historic range of the threatened spectacled and Steller's eiders.

Preliminarily, the described activity will not affect threatened or endangered species, or modify their designated critical habitat, under the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (87 Stat. 844). This application is being coordinated with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the National Marine Fisheries Service. Any comments they may have concerning endangered or threatened wildlife or plants or their critical habitat will be considered in our final assessment of the described work.

ESSENTIAL FISH HABITAT: The proposed work is being evaluated for possible effects to Essential Fish Habitat (EFH) pursuant to the Magnuson Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act of 1996 (MSFCMA), 16 U.S.C. et seq and associated federal regulations found at 50 CFR 600 Subpart K. The Alaska District includes areas of EFH as Fishery Management Plans. We have reviewed the January 20, 1999, North Pacific Fishery Management Council's Environmental Assessment to locate EFH area as identified by the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS).

We have determined that the described activity within the proposed area will not adversely affect EFH, including anadromous fish and federally managed fishery resources.

SPECIAL AREA DESIGNATION: None.

EVALUATION: The decision whether to issue a permit will be based on an evaluation of the probable impacts including cumulative impacts of the proposed activity and its intended use on the public interest. Evaluation of the probable impacts, which the proposed activity may have on the public interest, requires a careful weighing of all the factors that become relevant in each particular case. The benefits, which reasonably may be expected to accrue from the proposal, must be balanced against its reasonably foreseeable detriments. The decision whether to authorize a proposal, and if so, the conditions under which it will be allowed to occur, are therefore determined by the outcome of the general balancing process. That decision should reflect the national concern for both protection and utilization of important resources. All factors, which may be relevant to the proposal, must be considered including the cumulative effects thereof. Among those are conservation, economics, aesthetics, general environmental concerns, wetlands, cultural values, fish and wildlife values, flood hazards, floodplain values, land use, navigation, shore erosion and accretion, recreation, water supply and conservation, water quality, energy needs, safety, food and fiber production, mineral needs, considerations of property ownership, and, in general, the needs and welfare of the people. For activities involving 404 discharges, a permit will be denied if the discharge that would be authorized by such permit would not comply with the Environmental Protection Agency's 404(b)(l) guidelines. Subject to the preceding sentence and any other applicable guidelines or criteria (see Sections 320.2 and 320.3), a permit will be granted unless the District Engineer determines that it would be contrary to the public interest.

The Corps of Engineers is soliciting comments from the public; Federal, State, and local agencies and officials; Indian Tribes; and other interested parties in order to consider and evaluate the impacts of this proposed activity. Any comments received will be considered by the Corps of Engineers to determine whether to issue, modify, condition or deny a permit for this proposal. To make this decision, comments are used to assess impacts on endangered species, historic properties, water quality, general environmental effects, and the other public interest factors listed above. Comments are used in the preparation of an Environmental Assessment and/or an Environmental Impact Statement pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act. Comments are also used to determine the need for a public hearing and to determine the overall public interest of the proposed activity.

Comments on the described work, with the reference number, should reach this office no later than the expiration date of this Public Notice to become part of the record and be considered in the decision. Please contact Ms. Terry Carpenter at (907) 753-2712, toll free from within Alaska at (800) 478-2712, or by email at terry.a.carpenter@poa02.usace.army.mil if further information is desired concerning this notice.

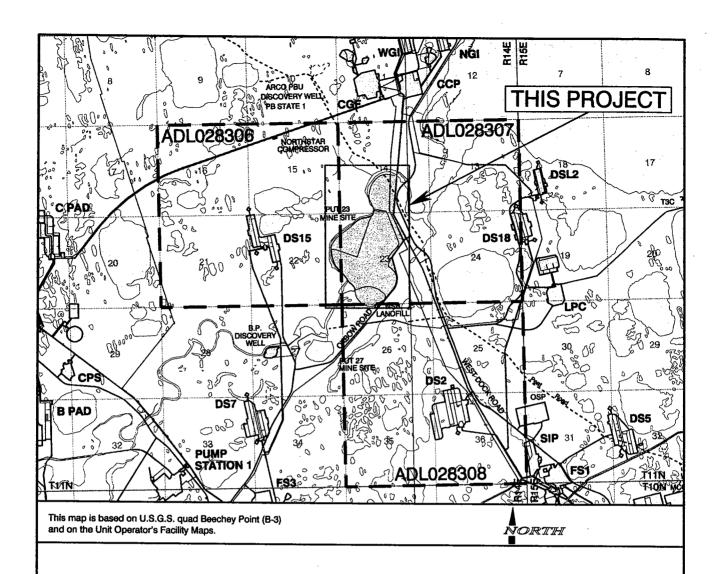
AUTHORITY: This permit will be issued or denied under the following authorities:

(X) Discharge dredged or fill material into waters of the United States Section 404 Clean Water Act (33 U.S.C. 1344). Therefore, our public interest review will consider the guidelines set forth under Section 404(b) of the Clean Water Act (40 CFR 230).

A plan, Notice of Application for Certification of Consistency with the Alaska Coastal Management Program, and Notice of Application for State Water Quality Certification are attached to this Public Notice.

District Engineer U.S. Army, Corps of Engineers

Attachments



PROJECT LOCATION:

PRUDHOE BAY UNIT - PUT 23 MINE SITE

LAT. = 70° 17' 33.0"

LONG. = -148° 31' 03.4"

X = 683,089.15 FEETY = 5,958,772.34 FEET

ALASKA STATE PLANE ZONE 4, NAD 27

SEC. 22, 23, 26 T11N, R14E ADL # 028307, 0238306, 028308

DATUM: MEAN SEA LEVEL

PURPOSE: MINE STATUS

ADJACENT PROPERTY OWNER: STATE OF ALASKA

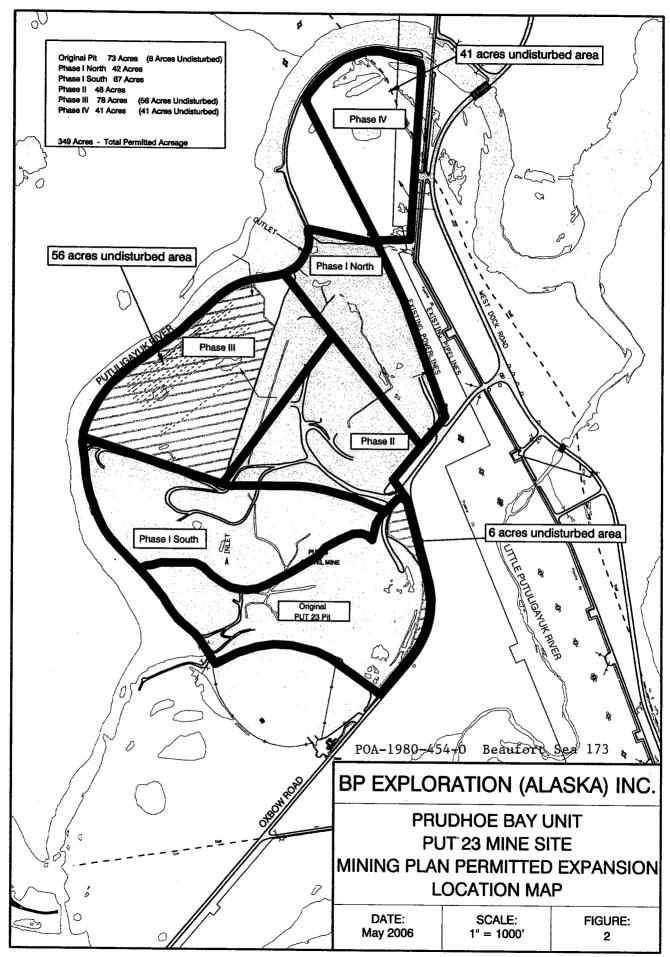
POA-1980-454-0 Beaufort Sea 173

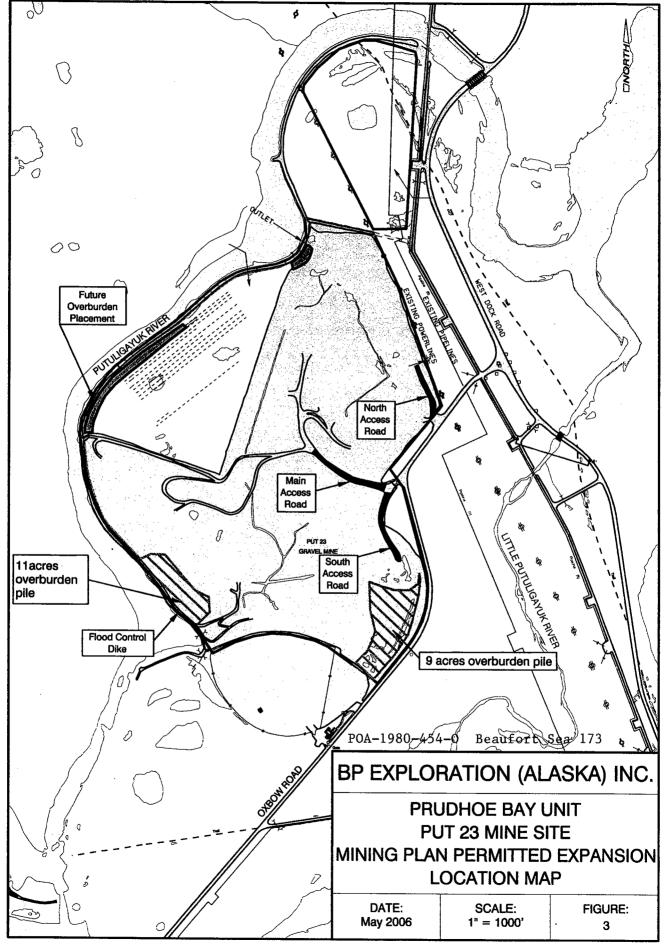
BP EXPLORATION (ALASKA) INC.

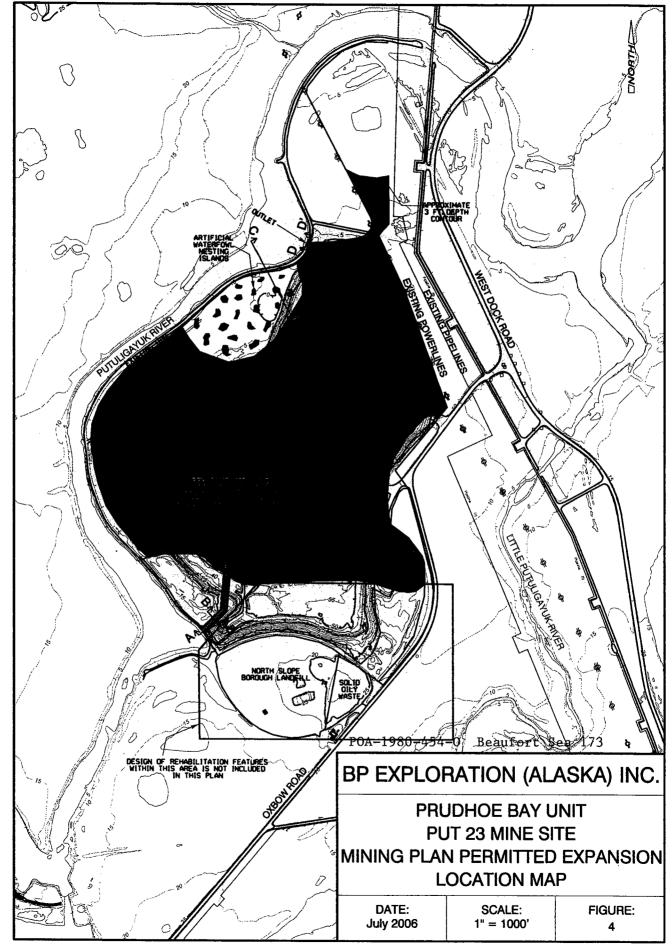
PRUDHOE BAY UNIT PUT 23 MINE SITE 2006 MINE SITE STATUS VICINITY MAP

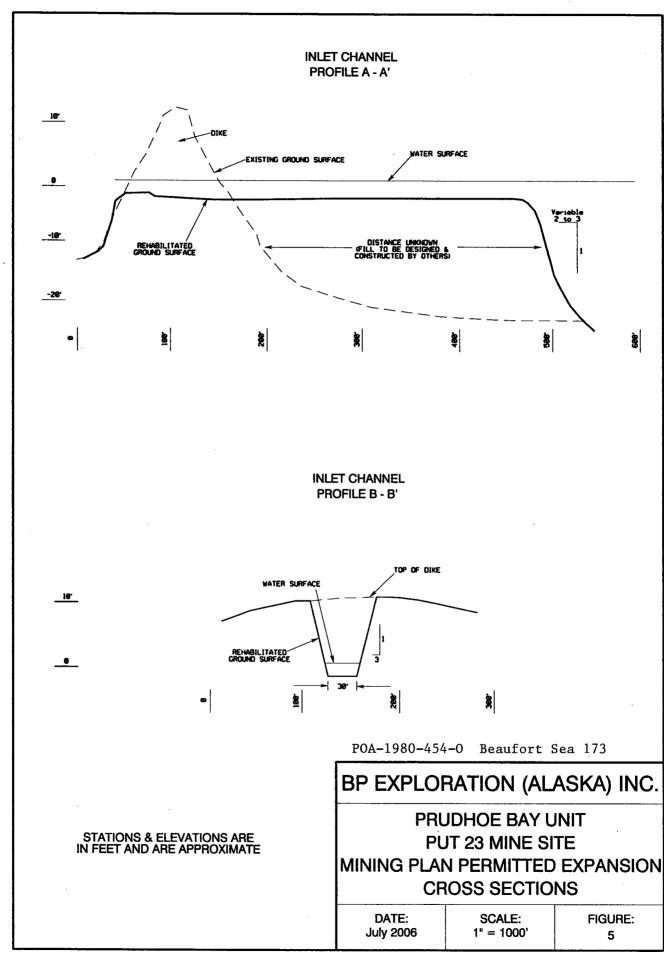
DATE: May 2006 SCALE: 1" = 1 Mile

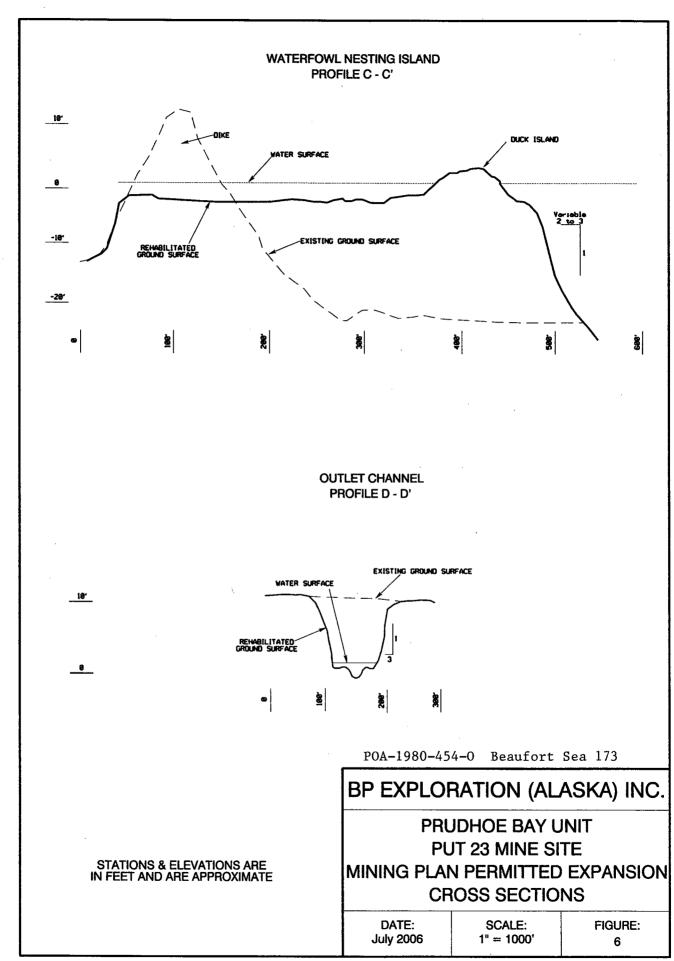
FIGURE:











MINING AND REHABILITATION PLAN PUT 23 GRAVEL MINE SITE

PRUDHOE BAY OILFIELD, ALASKA

as required by
Material Sale Contract ADL 416559
USACE Permit No. N-1980-0454, Beaufort Sea 173

Updated by **BP Exploration (Alaska) Inc. Environmental Studies Group** and **Hoefler Consulting Group**

26 July 2006

INTRODUCTION

BP Exploration (Alaska) Inc. (BPXA) submits the following updated mining and rehabilitation plan for operation of the Put 23 Gravel Mine Site. The mining plan and rehabilitation plans were originally developed to fulfill the requirements of both federal and state permitting agencies.

The mining plan and rehabilitation plans were required by the General Material Sale Contracts ADL 400816 and 413776 between Arco and the Alaska Department of Natural Resources (ADNR) Division of Land and Water Management (DLWM) subsequently the Division of Mining, Land and Water (DMLW). The mining plan was approved by ADNR DLWM on March 4, 1981 and the Rehabilitation Plan was approved by ADNR DLWM on December 28, 1993. Both plans are currently approved for Put 23 Mine Site under the General Material Sale Contract ADL 416559.

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers permit 4-1980-0454, Beaufort Sea 173 was issued to Arco on March 23, 1981 to stockpile gravel and construct roads in association with the Put 23 Mine Site. The permit was subsequently modified on November 6, 1996 for continued excavation and included the requirement and approval of the rehabilitation plan. This permit was transferred to BPX on April 23, 2001. The last permit modification was on September 19, 2003 which allowed for expansion and maintenance of the flood control dike around the Put 23 Mine Site.

The previously approved mining and rehabilitation plans have been updated and combined into this single Mining and Rehabilitation Plan as part of BPXA's request of USACE permit renewal for continued gravel extraction operations and rehabilitation for

the ten year period beginning in November 2006. The Mining and Rehabilitation Plan has been revised to reflect current and planned future gravel extraction operations and allows for inclusion of more recently recognized revegetation techniques to be consistent with recently approved rehabilitation plans.

The mine site rehabilitation plan is based upon the following factors: (1) to provide shallow littoral areas in addition to deeper water used by fish for over-wintering, (2) to maximize gravel recovery while addressing the habitat requirements in order to minimize the area disturbed, and (3) the need to conserve stockpiled overburden for potential revegetation projects and reservoir nutrient purposes. The plan states that, to the extent practicable, irregular shorelines will be created along new cuts into expansion areas in order to avoid straight line contours where possible. The irregularly contoured, shallow/deep mining method, therefore, represents an attempt to optimize resource extraction and environmental benefits.

The existing gravel mine site configuration has been updated in drawings that use current, more accurate mapping technology and allow better identification of the permitted acreage. Figure 1 provides the location of the mine site. Figure 2 identifies gravel extraction phases originally proposed and approved by ADNR and USACE. The "total" Put 23 Mine Site permitted area is approximately 349 acres. This acreage includes the 308 acre mining area currently identified in the most recent gravel sales contract (the original Phases I, II, and III) as well as the inactive Phase IV area of 41 acres.

The mining plan, and therefore the rehabilitation plan as well, assumes that all phases of the gravel mine site expansion will be worked prior to final closure. The ultimate area impacted by mining will be reduced if a lesser volume of gravel is required than is potentially extractable.

EXISTING CONDITION

The overall size and configuration of the gravel mine area remains unchanged from that which was previously approved. There were four phases approved for the mining of gravel. Phases I, II, and a portion of Phase III are currently active. The portion of Phase III which has been utilized for a Trench Test will not be disturbed until it is determined that the trench sites area is no longer required for evaluation. Gravel depletion in Phase IV has not yet occurred and it is inactive.

Overburden material is currently stored in two areas at the Put 23 Mine Site (see Figure 3). On the southeast side of the mine site there is a 9-acre overburden pile and on the southwest side of the mine site there is an 11-acre overburden pile.

A 6,500 foot long flood control dike runs along the western boundary of the mine site between the active mining area and the Putuligayak River. This dike was improved and expanded in September of 2003.

Phases III and IV will be mined on an as-needed basis in the future. It is not possible to predict the extent and timing of gravel mine expansion into the Phase IV area as that expansion is based upon development and maintenance requirements that vary annually.

As some measure of flexibility is required in mining and rehabilitation, the plans and figures are provided as guidance, and not as a precise description of final configuration. However, the outer permit boundary and size of the mine site, conformity with general guidance for irregular shorelines, creation of shallow littoral and deep reservoir areas, and the revegetation performance standards listed in Table 2 are considered compliance requirements under the permits that regulate this project.

Permits authorizing the current mining plans and expansion into Phases III and IV were obtained from:

• Army Corps of Engineers

Alaska Dept of Natural Resources

North Slope Borough

No. N-1980-0454, Beaufort Sea 173 Expiring October 31, 2006 Material Sales Contract 416559 Expiring March 5, 2011 Authorization Approved No expiration date

MINING PLAN

General Information

Gravel mining is currently being conducted in the original pit, Phase I (north and south), Phase II, and Phase III. Additional areas in Phase III must be excavated to meet future gravel needs. Gravel will continue to be mined from this area on an as-needed basis until safely accessible gravel resources are depleted under this plan and Phase IV requires excavation.

- 1. The newest excavation area required for acquiring gravel in the Phase III section is identified in Figure 3. The overburden from this newly excavated area will be moved directly west of the excavation area and placed next to the flood control dike road. Care will be taken to avoid disturbing the test trench area until approval for discontinued rehabilitation of the trench trial area is approved. The new excavation is expected to provide approximately 500,000 bank yards of gravel.
- 2. Gravel extracted from Put 23 mining operations and from future expansions may be stockpiled at various places within the originally permitted footprint.
- 3. The access road along Put 23 will be retained for future access into the existing gravel removal areas. During 2006/2007, the three access roads into the mine site (main,

- north, and south) will be enhanced or modified as required (See Figure 3). Further excavation may be required on the roads on the mine floor to match any elevation changes on the access roads.
- 4. The exact timing of future expansions into Phase IV to the north east is entirely dependent upon future gravel needs related to exploratory, development, production and maintenance requirements.

Summer Mining Plan

- 1. Summer mining will consist of mining gravel vertically to a depth of between 6 and 8 feet. Additionally the Phase II area may be mined by pushing material down the side slopes to the existing pit floor.
- 2. Gravel will be mined below the static water elevation if it is practical to do so, and provided the ability to continue discharging accumulated gravel mine water under the provisions of the existing National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit issued by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). Mining below the static water table will be conducted so as to create a benched or shelved configuration. Generally, the shelf will extend laterally for a distance of approximately 100 feet to provide shallow littoral area for improved fish habitat. Beyond the shelf area, mining will continue vertically until it is determined to be no longer practical for reasons of safety, gravel quality or operational efficiency. This mining method will provide for a shallow littoral habitat area for fish rearing in the summer months and for deeper areas that can be used by fish as over-wintering habitat.
- 3. Side slopes of the cut will be contoured to a 1:1.5 side slope as mining progresses.

Winter Mining Plan

- 1. Mining during the winter months will consist of deep mining, to a depth of approximately 60 feet. A sloped access ramp will be constructed into the pit as mining progresses deeper into the pit. This deep mining will accomplish two important goals: disturbance of surface area will be reduced through greater recovery of the natural resource gravel within a specific area, and deep over-wintering fish habitat will be created to complement the shallow littoral areas being created.
- 2. Mined material will be stockpiled within the perimeter of the expanded extraction site or will be transported offsite where it is needed for construction.
- 3. Side slopes in Put 23 during winter mining will be contoured to a 1:1.5 side slope in those areas not already contoured during the summer. Some contouring may have to be performed during the following summer season.

REHABILITATION PLAN

INTRODUCTION

This plan contains the description of procedures to be used for rehabilitating Put 23 Mine Site located in the Eastern Operating Area (EOA) of the Prudhoe Bay Unit (PBU) on the North Slope of Alaska.

This plan follows the standard format for rehabilitation plans developed by BP in 2002. Because flexibility is needed in rehabilitation, most of this plan is provided for information purposes only, with the understanding that some changes may be needed as rehabilitation progresses. However the monitoring requirements listed in Table 1 and the Performance Standards listed in Table 2 should be considered compliance requirements.

The rehabilitation plan does not specifically address the prevention of pollutant seepage from the existing oxbow landfill and solid oily waste pit. It is assumed that a seepage control design will be developed, by others, to prevent pollutant seepage into the proposed mine site lake. If the seepage control design required encroachment into the area where the proposed inlet channel is to be located, the inlet channel could be shifted downstream.

<u>Location</u>: The Put 23 Mine Site is located approximately 2.5 miles northeast of Drill Site 7 in the Eastern Operating Area, Prudhoe Bay, Alaska. The site is accessible by the road system.

<u>Site Description</u>: The site consists of a gravel pit excavated to a maximum depth of approximately 60 feet. A flood prevention dike runs along the west and north border of the pit adjacent the Putuligayak (Put) River. The total area covered by the pit and dike is approximately 249 acres. The pit is regulated by an EPA NPDES permit to allow dewatering of the pit each spring.

<u>Surrounding Vegetation</u>: The vegetation surrounding the Put 23 Mine Site has a rolling to flat landscape with minimal topographic relief. The vegetation is wet and moist tundra dominated by Eriophorum angustifolium and Carex aquatilis. Arctophila fulva is present in wetter areas and shallowly flooded habitats. Dupontia fischeri may be locally prevalent and in drier areas tussock tundra dominated by Eriophorum vaginatum may also occur.

<u>Rehabilitation Approach</u>: The site will be fertilized, seeded, and monitored to achieve site conditions similar to the surrounding area.

Goals and Objectives: The goal of the Put 23 rehabilitation plan is to provide a large deep water reservoir with substantial shallow littoral areas for improved fish habitat and to establish productive, diverse, and self-sustaining plant communities on terrestrial areas upon final mine site abandonment. The ultimate character and quantities of shallow and deep water habitats that are provided are dependent on the need for future mining.

SITE PREPARATION

- 1. Fish habitat rehabilitation will occur upon mine site abandonment. The development of inlet and outlet channels will provide opportunity for fish to enter the reservoir to overwinter as well as providing through-flow to maintain the water quality within the lake.
- 2. To the extent practicable, irregular shorelines will be created. Straight line contours will be avoided where possible. See Figures 4, 5, and 6.
- 3. Expansion of the mine site is entirely dependent upon future gravel needs related to exploratory, development, production or maintenance requirements. Overburden from expansions will be stockpiled. Dikes created from overburden as a result of future expansion will be breached at several locations to create islands for breeding and nesting birds. Some of the overburden material (organics and fine silts) will be spread along the shelf areas to provide substrate structure and nutrients for plants, insects and fish that will enter the reservoir system when it is allowed to flood.
- 4. The access road leading into the gravel mine area at the east side of Put 23 will be retained as long as necessary to provide continued access to mining areas, overburden stockpiles for future revegetation projects, and water withdrawal sites from the reservoir system.

REHABILITATION TREATMENTS

Areas excavated to tundra grade or backfilled areas will be seeded with *Puccinellia borealis*, a native grass that is short-lived and non-competitive to invasion by indegenous tundra plant species. An application of approximately 3-5 lb/acre of *Puccinellia borealis* should be adequate (BP Exploration (Alaska), Inc. et al. 2004). *P. borealis* seed is available in limited quantities, and this seeding plan (either the species or the year of planting) may need to be revised if adequate seed is not available.

Based on past experience, applying phosphorus fertilizer will greatly benefit establishment of the seeded grass and encourage the invasion of the site by indigenous graminoids. A fertilizer application to deliver 20:20:10 NPK at 400 lbs/acre is recommended as specified in the North Slope Plant Establishment Guidelines Table dated May 11, 2004. The year following Put 23 Mine site close out seed and fertilizer will be applied during the growing season, after breakup and before freeze up in autumn, when

the soil surface has thawed and drained of excess moisture. The seeded grass is expected to reach maturity by the third growing season following seeding and to begin declining after four to five growing seasons, allowing natural invaders to occupy the site.

PERFORMANCE STANDARDS

By the tenth year following gravel removal, the mine site overburden will support 10% total live vascular plant cover, excluding seed grass cultivars. At least five species of naturally colonizing plants will be present, with at least 0.2% cover by each. These performance standards, intended to lead to a stabilizing plant cover on the site while also promoting eventual replacement of seeded grasses with naturally colonizing species, apply to areas that are not ponded for more than four weeks during the growing season.

MONITORING FOR PERFORMANCE STANDARDS

Monitoring will be used to evaluate the progress of vegetation relative to performance standards. The final monitoring will establish whether the revegetation performance standards have been met.

Canopy cover and species composition will be assessed using BP's standard "BPXA Revegetation and Compliance Monitoring; Standardized Methods for Documenting Plant Community Development" according to the schedule in Table 1. If intermediate sampling indicates vegetation is not establishing according to standards, remedial actions may be required to strengthen the stand.

DISCRETIONARY RESEARCH

<u>Elevation</u>: Site elevation relative to tundra grade will be monitored along at least two permanent transects at the site. Transects will extend across the site and out into the tundra on either side of the site for approximately 10 m. Elevations will be measured (probably using a laser level) according to the schedule in Table 1.

<u>Vegetation Recolonization</u>: On the overburden capped habitats, natural recolonization may be monitored to identify which indigenous species enter the site and when they establish. This information may be useful for identifying stages of secondary tundra plant succession.

REPORTING

Progress reports following BP's standard format will be submitted by 1 February of the year following the site visit scheduled in Table 1. Reports will be provided to State of

Alaska Department of Natural Resources, U. S. Army Corp of Engineers, and the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

REMEDIAL ACTION

If monitoring suggests that performance standards may not be met by year 10, additional seeding, fertilizing, and/or other planting approaches will be considered in consultation with agency representatives.

REFERENCES

BP Exploration (Alaska), Inc., Conoco Phillips Alaska, Inc., ABR, Inc., and Lazy Mountain Research. 2004. North Slope Plant Establishment Guidelines Table May 11, 2004. Prepared by Oasis Environmental, Inc. 10 pp.

Year	Treatment & Monitoring	Reporting
ear 1	Sample soil and have it tested for fertility and other features. Establish permanent elevation monitoring transects and measure relative elevations.	
Year 2	Apply seed and fertilizer.	Progress report.
Year 6	Measure vegetation cover and species composition, and compile a species list, using BP's standard method. Sample soil where revegetation success appears lacking. Observe surface stability qualitatively. Measure relative elevations.	
Year 10	Measure vegetation cover and species composition, and compile a species list, using BP's standard method. Observe surface stability qualitatively.	_

Goals	Establish diverse and productive wetland and upland plant communities on the situation similar to those of the surrounding area, thereby improving the appearance of the situand improving its suitability for some wildlife species.
Objectives	Short-term establishment of seeded grass that will not persist, allowing natural tundra plant species to invade the site over time.
Performance Standard	By year 10, 10% cover by live vascular plants, including seeded grasses, with at least 1% cover of naturally colonizing species. Species composition consisting of at least 2 naturally colonizing species with 0.2% canopy cover each, on the reserve pit area and the gravel pad removal area.
Monitoring Methods	For vegetation cover, use BP's standard method for measuring plant cover.

STATE OF ALASKA

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
OFFICE OF PROJECT MANAGEMNT AND PERMITTING

ALASKA COASTAL ZONE MANAGEMENT 550 WEST 7TH AVENUE, SUITE 1660 ANCHORAGE, ALASKA 99501-3568

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR CERTIFICATION OF CONSISTENCY WITH THE ALASKA COASTAL MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

Notice is hereby given that a request is being filed with the Office of Project Management and Permitting for a consistency determination, as provided in Section 307(c)(3) of the Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972, as amended [16 U.S.C. 1456(c)(3)], that the project described in the Corps of Engineers Public Notice No. **POA-1980-454-O, Beaufort Sea 173**, will comply with the Alaska Coastal Management Program and that the project will be conducted in a manner consistent with that program.

The Office of Project Management and Permitting requests your comments, particularly on the proposed project's consistency with the affected local coastal district management program. For more information on the consistency review contact OPMP at (907) 269-7470 or (907) 465-3562, or visit the ACMP web site at http://www.gov.state.ak.us/gdc/Projects/projects.html.

STATE OF ALASKA

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

DEPT. OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION

DIVISION OF WATER401 Certification Program
Non-Point Source Water Pollution Control Program

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR STATE WATER QUALITY CERTIFICATION

Any applicant for a federal license or permit to conduct an activity that might result in a discharge into navigable waters, in accordance with Section 401 of the Clean Water Act of 1977 (PL95-217), also must apply for and obtain certification from the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation that the discharge will comply with the Clean Water Act, the Alaska Water Quality Standards, and other applicable State laws. By agreement between the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and the Department of Environmental Conservation, application for a Department of the Army permit to discharge dredged or fill material into navigable waters under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act also may serve as application for State Water Quality Certification.

Notice is hereby given that the application for a Department of the Army Permit described in the Corps of Engineers' Public Notice No. <u>POA-1980-454-O</u>, Beaufort Sea 173, State Water Quality Certification from the Department of Environmental Conservation.

After reviewing the application, the Department may certify that there is reasonable assurance that the activity, and any discharge that might result, will comply with the Clean Water Act, the Alaska Water Quality Standards, and other applicable State laws. The Department also may deny or waive certification.

Any person desiring to comment on the project with respect to Water Quality Certification may submit written comments within 30 days of the date of the Corps of Engineer's Public Notice to:

Department of Environmental Conservation WQM/401 Certification 555 Cordova Street Anchorage, Alaska 99501-2617 Telephone: (907) 269-6281

FAX:

(907) 269-7508